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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET-CONTROL/NO OFFICIALS ONLY~~

COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC 85th Gds Hvy Tank/SP Arty Regt

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EVALUATION [REDACTED]

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PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED]

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

DATE PREPARED 8 September 1949

REFERENCES [REDACTED]

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ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS [REDACTED]

NO CHANGE in Class. ☐☒ DECLASSIFIED

Class CHANGED TO: TS S C

DDA Memo. 4 Apr 72

Auth: DDA REG. 77/1/1

Date: 23 MAY 1978

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The 85th Gds Hvy Tank/SP Arty Regt was entered on the OB list of the 6th Gds Tank Div (Gdres) because of the following facts and hypotheses:

1. Available records, which were searched for data concerning Guards heavy tank/self-propelled artillery regiments in order to be compiled in [REDACTED] included 1947-files of the 22nd Heavy Construction Unit (Germany). These files contained the life history of a member of this unit, who stated that he served with the 22d Gds Hvy Tank/SP Arty Regt in Germany from 1945 to 1947. On page 5 of his service record it was, however, stated that he served with the 85th Hvy Tank/SP Arty Regt from 1945 to 1947.

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2. a. It was inferred from these original files that the 22d Gds Hvy Tank/SP Arty Regt had been formed from the 22d Gds Tank Brig/ V Gds Tank Corps at the end of World War II. It appears that at the end of the war in Europe most of the personnel of the V Gds Tank Corps was transferred to the Far Eastern Theater and received newly manufactured tanks while the corps' tank equipment and remaining personnel were left in Europe and used for the activation of postwar units.

b. It was concluded from the differing entries in the mentioned records that the 22d Gds Hvy Tank/SP Arty Regt was redesignated in 1946 or 1947 as the 85th Gds Hvy Tank/SP Arty Regt. This hypothesis was strengthened by the fact that most of the Guards heavy tank/self-propelled artillery regiments which were assigned to newly activated tank and mechanized divisions

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c. It was also assumed that the 85th Hvy Tank/SP Arty Regt had the "Guards" title because no heavy tank/self-propelled artillery regiment has yet been identified without having the "Guards" title. The Guards tank breakthrough regiments of World War II automatically had the "Guards" title and, as far as they remained in existence, have been reorganized into heavy tank/self-propelled artillery regiments since the war.

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3. The [redacted] assigned to the 22d Gds Tank Brig during World War II. This [redacted] was last reported from "DIFFERENTIAL" on 10 April 1943. This information was the basis for the assumption that the 85th Gds Iv Tank/SP Arty Regt was assigned the [redacted] and was, at that time, located in the quartering area of the 6th Gds Tank Div (Cadre).

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4. Since the method of indirectly identifying the 85th Gds Iv Tank/SP Arty Regt was based on many hitherto unsubstantiated assumptions, the regiment will be carried in the GB list of this project as "reasonably identified".

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